

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 15741 182204Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
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-----022666 191108Z /14

R 171925Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1675
INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE
AMCONSUL NICE
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS PARIS 15741

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, FR
SUBJECT: JEAN-PIERRE PROUTEAU, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR
SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESS

1. STRATEGIC SUPPORT FOR GISCARD AND USEFUL CONNECTIONS WITH THE RADICAL LEFT HAVE WON FOR JEAN-PIERRE PROUTEAU, AGE 47, THE POST OF SECRETARY OF STATE FOR SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY. ALTHOUGH WHEN PROUTEAU WAS A YOUNG PRESIDENT OF THE RADICAL YOUTHS (JEUNESSES RADICALES D'INDRE ET LOIRE) AND SUBSEQUENTLY OF THE DEMOCRATIC UNION OF VETERANS OF ALGERIA (UNION DEMOCRATIQUE DES ANCIENS D'ALGERIE) HE FAVORED THE POLITICS OF MENDES-FRANCE, IN 1974 HE THREW HIS SUPPORT TO GISCARD D'ESTAING. AS THE GRAND MASTER OF MASONIC ORDER IN FRANCE (GRAND ORIENT DE FRANCE) HE WAS ABLE TO HOLD THE ORDER, WHICH HAD TRADITIONALLY SUPPORTED MITTERAND, TO A NEUTRAL STANCE.

2. IN 1976 PROUTEAU WAS ASKED TO REASSEMBLE WHITE COLLAR AND PROFESSIONAL WORKERS' SUPPORT FOR THE MAJORITY
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AND TO PROMOTE THE REUNIFICATION OF THE "RADICAL FAMILY". AIDED BY HIS LEADERSHIP AND SUPPORT AS WELL AS THAT OF MICHEL DEBATISSE (AGRICULTURE), LEON GINGEMBRE (SMALL BUSINESS), YVAN CHARPENTIE (ADMINISTRATION) AND JACQUES MONNIER (MEDICINE) THE GROUP FOR INITIATIVE AND RESPONSIBILITY (GROUPE INITIATIVES ET RESPONSABILITES - GIR) LAUNCHED IN MARCH

1977, IS CREDITED WITH CONTRIBUTING TO THE MAJORITY VICTORY IN 1978. PROUTEAU IS NOTED FOR THE EXCELLENT CONTACTS AND ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS WHICH HAVE SERVED HIM WELL IN THE PAST.

3. TRAINED IN OPERATIONAL RESEARCH AND DATA-PROCESSING HE BEGAN HIS CAREER IN MANAGEMENT IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY, THEN JOINED THE GOVERNMENT TO SERVE AS THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR OPERATIONAL RESEARCH (1960-66). HE DIRECTED THE SOCIETY FOR DATA PROCESSING AND OPERATIONAL RESEARCH FROM 1967-1974.

4. PROUTEAU IS MARRIED AND HAS TWO CHILDREN.
HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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